

House File 650 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE \_\_\_\_\_  
BY FORD

Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_

A BILL FOR

1 An Act providing for the establishment of a task force to study  
2 ninth grade academies and making an appropriation.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:  
4 TLSB 2612HH 83  
5 kh/nh/14

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1 1 Section 1. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION == TASK FORCE ON NINTH  
1 2 GRADE ACADEMIES, PROGRAMS, AND CURRICULUM.  
1 3 1. The department of education shall convene a task force  
1 4 to study the effects of ninth grade academies on student  
1 5 achievement, student behavior, truancy, attendance, classroom  
1 6 management, and students' social and academic transition to  
1 7 high schools. The study shall include but not be limited to  
1 8 identification of the essential components of successful ninth  
1 9 grade academies operating in this state and other states,  
1 10 including professional development programs for ninth grade  
1 11 teachers, team teaching, tutoring, and implementation of a  
1 12 challenging curriculum; and a review of single sex classes,  
1 13 classrooms, and programs.  
1 14 2. The director of the department of education shall  
1 15 appoint members to the task force who shall include education  
1 16 practitioners and stakeholders, including but not limited to  
1 17 guidance counselors, curriculum specialists, administrators,  
1 18 and teachers; parents and guardians; and other stakeholders as  
1 19 appropriate. The task force shall select a chairperson from  
1 20 its membership. A majority of the members of the task force  
1 21 shall constitute a quorum. Members shall serve without  
1 22 compensation, but shall receive their actual and necessary  
1 23 expenses, including travel expenses.  
1 24 3. The task force shall report its findings and  
1 25 recommendations, including any recommendations for statutory  
1 26 changes, to the state board of education and the general  
1 27 assembly by January 15, 2010.  
1 28 Sec. 2. APPROPRIATION == DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. There  
1 29 is appropriated from the general fund of the state to the  
1 30 department of education for the fiscal year beginning July 1,  
1 31 2009, and ending June 30, 2010, the following amount, or so  
1 32 much thereof as is necessary, to be used for the purposes  
1 33 designated:  
1 34 For actual and necessary expenses, including travel  
1 35 expenses, incurred by members of the task force on ninth grade  
2 1 academies, programs, and curriculum established pursuant to  
2 2 this Act:  
2 3 ..... \$ 5,000  
2 4 EXPLANATION  
2 5 This bill directs the department of education to convene a  
2 6 task force to study the effects of ninth grade academies on  
2 7 student achievement, student behavior, truancy, attendance,  
2 8 classroom management, and students' social and academic  
2 9 transition to high schools. The study shall include but not  
2 10 be limited to identification of the essential components of  
2 11 successful ninth grade academies operating in this state and  
2 12 other states, including professional development programs for  
2 13 ninth grade teachers, team teaching, tutoring, and  
2 14 implementation of a challenging curriculum; and a review of  
2 15 single sex classes, classrooms, and programs.  
2 16 The director of the department is directed to appoint  
2 17 members to the task force who shall include education  
2 18 practitioners and stakeholders, including but not limited to  
2 19 guidance counselors, curriculum specialists, administrators,  
2 20 and teachers; parents and guardians; and other stakeholders as

2 21 appropriate. The bill appropriates from the state general  
2 22 fund to the department for the 2009=2010 fiscal year \$5,000  
2 23 for the expenses of the task force members.  
2 24 The task force must submit its findings and recommendations  
2 25 in a report to the state board of education and the general  
2 26 assembly by January 15, 2010.  
2 27 LSB 2612HH 83  
2 28 kh/nh/14.1